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Front Edit Other
Page Page Page

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Brazil Takes a Position

Brazil's President Quadros has made it much clearer that a growing general belief about many Latin American countries is true — the masses are pro-Castro. And because of that he is saying the United States should keep hands off in Cuba. He is interpreted as taking this position because of the impoverished condition of so many Brazilians. Yet he is apparently not going to refuse United States aid for those impoverished citizens of his.

The Brazilian President refuses to accept that Castro has placed Cuba in the Communist bloc. His position made clear, Washington now has to find out how many other Latin American leaders will stand with him.

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Brazil has been very friendly to the United States. The new Presi-

dent evidently is not going to take the line of his predecessor, though it is probable there as in other countries that the more prosperous and influential people will continue to be anti-Castro-Communism.

These newest developments make it even more apparent that we failed tragically in Cuba by not being prepared to intervene immediately when the Cuban rebel invasion failed. And that those most responsible for planning that invasion failed miserably. Exactly where the blame goes is still a public mystery, though there have been charges of Chiefs of Staff, State Department, and Central Intelligence Agency being to blame, either separately or all together. The President accepted responsibility, so that makes it difficult to know the truth.

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Usually, after such a mess-up, a few weeks pass and certain personnel drop out of government posts and this provides a basis for determining where responsibility lay. There is so far no such sign to serve as guide. So General Maxwell Taylor's report, if made public, may provide what we all want to know.